Numb. 3679

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Monday February 10. to Thursday February 13. 1700.

Westminster, Febr. 11.

THE Parliament met yesterday, and the King being come to the House of Peers, and seated on the Throne in his Royal Robes attended with the usual Solemnity, the Commons were sent for up by the Usher of the Black Rod, who attending His Majesty accordingly, the Lord Keeper, by His Majesty's Command, signified to them His Majesty's Pleasure, That they should forthwith proceed to the Choice of a fit Person to be their Speaker, and present him to His Majesty the next day; And the Commons being returned to their own House, made choice of *Robert Harley* Esq; to be their Speaker, who being this day Presented to His Majesty seated on his Throne in the House of Peers, His Majesty did graciously Approve of him; And then His Majesty made a most Gracious Speech to both Houses, which follows.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

OUR great Misfortune in the Loss of the Duke of Glouc ester, *hath made it absolutely Necessary, that there should be a further Provision for the Succession to the Crown in the Protestant Line after Me and the Princess. The Happiness of the Nation, and the Security of Our Religion, which is Our chiefest Concern, seems so much to depend upon this, that I cannot Doubt but it will meet with a general Concurrence, and I earnestly Recommend it to your early and effectual Consideration.*

The Death of the late King of Spain, *with the Declaration of his Successor to that Monarchy, has made so great an Alteration in the Affairs Abroad, That I must desire you very maturely to Consider their present State; and I make no doubt but your Resolutions thereupon will be such, as shall be most conducing to the Interest and Safety of* England, *the Preservation of the Protestant Religion in general, and the Peace of all* Europe.

These things are of such Weight, that I have thought them most proper for the Consideration of a new Parliament, to have the more immediat Sense of the Kingdom in so great a Conjuncture.

I must Desire of you, Gentlemen of the House of Commons, *such Supplies as you shall Judge necessary for the Service of the Current Year, and I must particularly put you in mind of the Deficiencies and Publick Debts occasioned by the late War, that are yet unprovided for.*

I am obliged further to Recommend to you, That you would Inspect the Condition of the Fleet, and Consider what Repairs or Augmentations may be requisite for the Navy, which is the great Bulwark of the English *Nation, and ought most Specially in this Conjuncture to be put in a good Condition; and that you would also Consider what is proper for the better Security of those Places where the Ships are laid up in Winter.*

The Regulation and Improvement of Our Trade is of so Publick Concern, that I hope it will ever have your serious Thoughts; And if you can find proper Means of setting the Poor at work, you will ease your selves of a very great Burthen; And at the same time add so many useful Hands to be employed in Our Manufactures and other Publick Occasions.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I hope there will be such an Agreement and Vigour in the Resolutions you shall take upon the Important Matters now before you, as may make it appear We are firmly United among Our Selves, and in My Opinion nothing can contribute more to Our Safety at Home, or to Our being considerable Abroad.

THE Circuits appointed for this Lent-Assizes are as follow:

Home Circuit.

Lord Chief Justice *Holt*.
Mr. Baron *Tracy*.

Hertford, Monday *March* 24. at the Town of *Hertford*.
Essex, Wednesday *March* 26. at *Chelmsford*.
Kent, Monday *March* 31. at *Maidstone*.
Sussex, Friday *April* 4. at *East-Grinstead*.
Surrey, Tuesday *April* 8. at *Kingston* upon *Thames*.

Norfolk Circuit.

Lord Chief Baron *Ward*.

Bucks, Wednesday *March* 12. at *Aylesbury*.
Bedford, Saturday *March* 15. at *Bedford*.
Huntingdon, Tuesday *March* 18. at *Huntingdon*.
Cambridge, Thursday *March* 20. at the Castle of *Cambridge*.
Norfolk, Monday *March* 24. at *Thetford*.
Suffolk, Friday *March* 28. at *St. Edmondsbury*.

Midland Circuit.

Mr. Justice *Nevill*.
Mr. Justice *Gould*.

Northampton, Tuesday *March* 18. at *Northampton*.
Rutland, Friday *March* 21. at *Okeham*.
Lincoln, Monday *March* 24. at the Castle of *Lincoln*.
City of *Lincoln*, The same day at the City of *Lincoln*.
Nottingham, Saturday *March* 29. at *Nottingham*.
Town of *Nottingham*, The same day at the Town of *Nottingham*.
Derby, Tuesday *April* 1. at *Derby*.
Leicester, Friday *April* 4. at the Castle of *Leicester*.
Borough of *Leicester*, Saturday *April* 5. at the Borough of *Leicester*.
City of *Coventry*, Tuesday *April* 8. at the City of *Coventry*.
Warwick, Wednesday *April* 9. at *Warwick*.

Northern Circuit.

Mr. Justice *Turton*.
Mr. Baron *Bury*.

Lancaster, Friday *March* 21. at the Castle of *Lancaster*.
York, Saturday *March* 29. at the Castle of *York*.
City of *York*, The same day at the *Guildhall* of the said City.

Western Circuit.

Mr. Justice *Powell*.
Mr. Justice *Powys*.

Southampton, Wednesday *March* 12. at the Castle of *Winchester*.
Wilts, Saturday *March* 15. at *New-Sarum*.
Dorset, Thursday *March* 20. at *Dorchester*.
Cornwall, Wednesday *March* 26. at *Launceston*.
City of *Exeter*, Tuesday *April* 1. at the *Guildhall* of the said City.
Devon, The same day at the Castle of *Exeter* in the County of *Devon*.
Somerset, Tuesday *April* 8. at the Castle of *Taunton*.

Oxford Circuit.

Mr. Justice *Blencowe*.
Mr. Baron *Hatsell*.

Berks, Tuesday *March* 18. at *Reading*.
Oxon, Thursday *March* 20. at *Oxon*.
Glouc ester, Monday *March* 24. at *Glouc ester*.
City of *Glouc ester*, The same day at the City of *Glouc ester*.
Monmouth, Friday *March* 28. at *Monmouth*.
Hereford, Monday *March* 31. at *Hereford*.
Salop, Friday *April* 4. at *Shrewsbury*.
Stafford, Wednesday *April* 9. at *Stafford*.
Worcester, Monday *April* 14. at *Worcester*.
City of *Worcester*, The same day at the City of *Worcester*.

Madrid, Jan. 27. *N. S.* An Express arrived here the 25th Instant, with Letters from the King of *Spain* to the Regents, acquainting them with his arrival at *Iron* on the 22d, the bad Ways and ill Weather having obliged him to be longer in his Journey than he designed; He has sent Orders to the Regents, to continue the Administration of Publick Affairs with the same Authority as before, to which an end was put by his arrival within the *Spanish* Dominions. He has writ to the Queen, That 'tis necessary she should remove from *Madrid* to *Valencia*, *Cordova*, *Granada*, or *Talavera*: But her Majesty having represented, that a Journey to either of these Places would be very inconvenient for her to undertake in this Season, it is left to her Choice to go either to *Segovia* or *Toledo*, and her Majesty, who removed the 16th Instant from the Royal Palace to the House of the Duke of *Montelcone*, intends to depart from hence in few days for *Toledo*. Count *Averfberg*, who was sent to succeed Count *Harrach*, the Emperor's Ambassador at this Court, continues here as a private Person, but 'tis said he will not be permitted to stay much longer; And that Orders are sent to the Duke of *Molles*, Ambassador from this Crown at *Vienna*, to demand of the Emperor the Investiture of the Dutchy of *Milan* for the new King of *Spain*, and to return hither immediately if it be denied. The late King's Confessor is banished from hence, for some Words he spoke reflecting on the present Government. The two German Regiments in *Catalonia* are ordered to march to *St. Sebastian*, where they are to embark, in order to their being sent

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